

Governor's Commission on Building Access to Community-Based Services

Minutes of April 19, 2018, Meeting at DHSS Chapel

DHSS Secretary Dr. Kara Odom Walker welcomed people to the meeting and turned it over to Rita Landgraf, the new commission chair and facilitator for the commission's strategic planning.

Landgraf went over the highlights from the first strategic planning session and put them into eight buckets or goals. See Reflections on PowerPoint.

She led a discussion on the guiding principles and how they fit the work of the commission. Pat Maichle said people's lives, desires and needs change over time, so the support system needs to be flexible enough to meet individuals and their families where they are. "Everybody's life changes," she said.

John McNeal said the support system needs to evolve with the person, using employment as an example. He said people might need one level of support when they first start, but as they evolve and gain experience in their field, you might need different or additional supports. Landgraf said the system needs to ebb and flow with the individual.

Tim Brooks added that when people go through life transitions, they need to know what the options are. How do you communicate that? Landgraf suggested they put that question in the parking lot and revisit it later.

Rick Kosmalski said supports should meet the individual's needs. The individual, he said, shouldn't have to conform his or her needs to the supports that are available.

In terms of transportation, Bonnie Hitch said the state is adding flexibility to the services it provides for people with disabilities, but is mindful what people can afford to pay.

Terri Hancharick asked how do we make sure we keep supports in place in case something happens to parents? She said 75 percent of people with intellectual or developmental disabilities live at home.

Brooks said there have been threats at the federal level since 2017 and the commission must deal with those threats. Landgraf said threats could be included in every goal.

Secretary Walker and Landgraf said the health care subcommittee must be broader than only access to coverage. By the virtue of disability, we have health inequity, Landgraf said.

Landgraf said the strategic planning process would be continued at the June meeting. With that, the meeting was adjourned.